

Please deny this petition to establish a thinly-veiled Socialist monopoloid market for America's Internet services. I am opposed to the ILECs' and cable operators' position in this petition, as they seek to reestablish for themselves an effective monopoly, in this case for Internet service, not unlike the AT&T "Ma Bell" monopoly for telephone service, the Federally-mandated breakup of which led to the ILECs' very existence. It seems that, having once enjoyed the fruits of monopolistic practices, they resent having been denied that unfair advantage and would seek to regain it in any way they can muster. The disadvantages of any sole-provider or contrived-competitor system are easy to foresee and have been well-demonstrated in history, from the aforementioned AT&T monopoly (remember Lily Tomlin's Ernestine the Operator saying, "We don't have to care [about the customer]; we're the Phone Company."), to Microsoft Windows (increasingly not even "good enough for government work" anymore), to pretty much anything produced by the sole-provider or faux-competitive factories of the obsolete Soviet Union and other defunct Communist economies (driven a Trabant lately?). Even when the sole or artificially-minimized providers are not literally owned and operated by the government, as in the Communist model, their limited number and too-close collusion between the providers and the government produces much the same effect, a variety of Socialism once known as National Socialism or Fascism, which latter term Mussolini himself once said should properly be called "Corporatism", so people would recognize it for what it is, namely, government conducted in mutual benefit with large corporations. Entrepreneurship and free-market competition are the primary motivating forces for promoting quality products and excellent service at reasonable costs to consumers -- the tried, tested, and proven way in the USA -- and this petition promoted by telecom ILECs and cable companies is anathema to these very principles which make our country and its economy the foremost in the world.